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Message Text

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64
ACTION OPR-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 A-01 PER-05 /019 W
---------- 059340
R 071718Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4855

UNCLAS NASSAU 1688

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ALOW BF
SUBJ: EDUCATION ALLOWANCE

1. EMBASSY REQUESTS INCREASE IN EDUCATION ALLOWANCE TO COVER COST OF OFF-ISLAND SCHOOLING FOR EMBASSY DEPENDENTS AT 11TH AND 12TH GRADE LEVELS.

2. ALL SCHOOLING IN NASSAU FOLLOWS BRITISH SYSTEM, AND THERE ARE NO US- CURRICULA SCHOOLS AVAIALABLE. THIS POSES NO PROBLEMS FOR CHILDREN AT OR BELOW US 10TH GRADE EQUIVALENT; FOR THEM SCHOOLING HERE IS ENTIRELY ADEQUATE. HOWEVER, AFTER 10TH GRADE PROBLEMS OF ADJUSTMENT INVOLVED IN TRANSIT BETWEEN BRITISH AND AMERICAN SYSTEMS INCREASE SUBSTANTIALLY. STUDENTS IN BAHAMIAN SCHOOLS TAKE BRITISH "O" LEVEL EXAMS AT END OF 11TH GRADE EQUIVALENT, A PROCESS FOR WHICH THEY HAVE BEEN PREPARING FOR TWO OR THREE YEARS. AN AMERICAN STUDENT ARRIVING IN 11TH GRADE IS ACCORDINGLY FACED WITH PROBLEM OF DOING THREE YEARS' WORTH OF PREPARATION IN ONE YEAR FOR THESE EXAMS, WHICH HAVE NO RELEVANCE FOR AMERICAN SCHOOL SYSTEM. ACCORDINGLY, WE DO NOT RECOMMEND THAT AMERICAN DEPENDENTS ENTER SCHOOL SYSTEM HERE AT 11TH OR 12TH GRADE LEVELS IF THEY PLAN ATTEND US UNIVERSITIES.

3. MOST NASSAU SCHOOLS END AT 5TH FORM (I.E. AT END OF WHICH "O" LEVEL EXAMS TAKEN AND WHICH IS NEAREST EQUIVALENT OF US 11TH GRADE). NEXT STAGE IS PREPARATION, WHICH REQUIRES TWO YEARS, FOR BRITISH "A" LEVEL EXAMINATIONS. FOR THIS STUDENTS MUST SHIFT TO GOVERNMENT HIGH SCHOOL, WHERE EDUCATION LEVEL IS SUB-STANDARD IN US TERMS. THERE IS NO EQUIVA-
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LENT OF US HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, OR OF US 12TH GRADE. PREPAR-

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ATION FOR AND TAKING OF "A" LEVEL EXAMS APPROPRIATE FOR STU-
DENT DESIRING TO ENTER BRITISH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, BUT NOT US.
THUS A DEPENDENT STUDENT WHO IS COUNTING ON COMPLETION OF
SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL EDUCATION IN NASSAU HAS NO POSSIBIL-
ITIES OF DOING SO UNLESS HE OR SHE WISHES TO BE COMMITTED TO
BRITISH SYSTEM WHICH DOES NOT MESH WITH THAT OF US.
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: EDUCATION ALLOWANCE
TAGS: ALOW, BF
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